



# Big Woods State Forest



## July 2022 – June 2023 Hunting Seasons

**No Rifles for Turkey Hunting**  
**Muzzleloaders Permitted During Muzzleloader Seasons**  
**Sunday Hunting is Allowed**

### Big Game Hunting Seasons

Bear	Archery: Oct. 1 – Nov. 18 Muzzleloader: Nov. 12 – 18 Firearm: Dec. 5 – 24	Youth/Apprentice: Oct. 8 & 9
Deer	Early Archery: Oct. 1 – Nov. 18 Early Muzzleloader: Nov. 5 – 18 (either sex on Nov. 12) Firearm: Nov. 19 – Jan. 7 (either sex Nov. 26, Dec. 3, Jan. 2 – 7)	Youth/Apprentice: Sept. 24 & 25
Turkey	Fall: Archery: Oct. 1 – Nov. 18 Firearm: Oct. 22 – Nov. 4, Nov. 23 & 24, Dec. 5 – 17 Youth/Apprentice: Oct. 8 & 9	Spring: Firearm: Apr. 8 – 23 (Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until noon) Apr. 24 – May 13 (Hours: ½ hour before sunrise to sunset) Youth/Apprentice: Apr. 1 & 2

### Small Game Hunting Seasons

Crow	Sept. 2 – Mar. 10 (Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays)
Groundhog	Sept. 1 – Mar. 10 and during Spring Turkey and Spring Squirrel Seasons
Quail	Nov. 12 – Jan. 31
Rabbit	Nov. 5 – Feb. 28
Squirrel	Fall: Sept. 3 – Feb. 28, No Fox Squirrels Spring: June 3 – 17, No Fox Squirrels

### Webless Migratory Gamebird Hunting Seasons

Dove	First Segment: Sept. 4 – Oct. 27 (Hours: Noon until sunset) Second Segment: Nov. 19 – 27 (Hours: ½ hour before sunrise to sunset) Third Segment: Dec. 23 – Jan. 21 (Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset)
Woodcock	Nov. 11 – Dec. 3, Dec. 27 – Jan. 17 (Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset)
Snipe	Sept. 26 – Nov. 27, Dec. 17 – Jan. 29 (Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset)
Rail/Gallinule/Moorhen	Sept. 9 – Nov. 17 (Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset)

### Waterfowl Hunting Seasons

Goose	Sept. 1 – 25 (Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset)	Youth/Veterans: Oct. 22 & Feb. 4
Teal	Sept. 17 – 30 (Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset)	
Duck/Mergansers/Coots	October 7 – 10 (Black Duck Closed) (Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset) Nov. 16 – 27 (Black Duck Closed) (Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset) Dec. 17 – Jan. 29 (Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset)	
Goose Southern James Bay Population	Nov. 16 – 27, Dec. 19 – Jan. 14 (Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset)	
Tundra Swan	Nov. 16 – Jan. 31 (By Permit Only)	

### Furbearer Hunting Seasons

Bobcat	Archery: Oct. 1 – 31 Firearm: Nov. 1 – Feb. 28
Coyote/Striped Skunk	Continuous Open Season
Opossum	Oct. 15 – Mar. 10
Fox	Nov. 1 – Feb. 28
Raccoon	Firearm: Oct. 15 – Mar. 10 Chase: Continuous open season

### Trapping Seasons

Beaver/Mink/Muskrat/Otter/Weasel	Dec. 1 – Feb. 28
Bobcat/Fox/Opossum/Raccoon	Nov. 15 – Feb. 28
Coyote/Nutria/Skunk	Continuous Open Season

This is just a summary of the hunting regulations on this State Forest. For more details, please visit the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) website at <https://dwr.virginia.gov/hunting/regulations/>  
If you have additional questions, please call DWR Region 1 Office at 804-829-6580